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Farnworth Urban District Council.

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1935.

By A. G. GLASS, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

FARNWORTH:

ALLDRED & SONS, LTD., PRINTERS, CAXTON BUILDINGS.

1936.



Farnworth Urban District Council.

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To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to Submit my Report on the health of the Urban District of Farnworth for the year 1935. The Registrar General has estimated the population of the district at 28,170, a decrease of 547 on the figures of the 1931 census, and a decrease of 50 on last year's estimate.

The Birth and Death Rates continue to approximate to each other, as they do for the country as a whole. Only once in the history of Farnworth (¹⁸²¹~~1912~~), has the infant mortality rate touched this year's low figure of 68 per thousand births.

During the year an important step was taken by the Council—the provision of facilities for carrying out the immunisation against diphtheria of all children whose parents desire it.

The new Housing Act, 1935 lays down for the first time definite standards of overcrowding. The carrying out of the survey under the Act will necessitate a great deal of extra work by the department. The results will be dealt with in next year's Report.

This Report follows the lines laid down by the Ministry of Health, and should be read in conjunction with the Report of the School Medical Officer.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

A. G. GLASS.

Members of the Health Committee.

Chairman :

Councillor W. McMANUS

Vice-Chairman: Councillor Dr. F. L. SESSIONS.

Members :

Councillor J. HEATHCOTE.
 „ A. JONES.
 „ S. C. KERFOOT.
 „ R. RALPHSON.
 „ J. LORD.
 „ J. STEVENSON.
 „ S. TAYLOR.
 „ J. WILCOCKSON.



Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

Chairman :

Councillor S. TAYLOR.

Vice-Chairman :

Councillor CUNLIFFE, J.P.

Members :

Councillor BRABBIN.
 „ HARGRAVES.
 „ HINDLEY.
 „ HEATHCOTE.
 „ JONES.
 „ KERFOOT.
 „ LORD.
 „ McMANUS.
 „ RAYNOR.
 „ SEDDON.
 „ SESSIONS.
 „ WILCOCKSON.

Co-opted Members :

Mrs. COOKE, J.P.
 Mrs. COOPER.
 Mrs. CROSSLEY.
 Mrs. JONES.
 Mrs. STEVENSON.
 Mrs. SCOTT.
 Mrs. WILCOCKSON.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area=1504 statute acres.

Population=Census, 1931	...	...	...	28,717
Estimated, 1935 (middle)	...	...	...	28,170
Number of inhabited houses (1931)	...	...	...	7104
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1935) according to Rate Books	...	...	...	7850
Number of families or separate occupiers (1931)	...	...	...	7188
Rateable value (1st April, 1935)	...	...	...	£127,574
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	£510

Social Conditions.

The population is mainly of the working class, the chief employment being in the cotton and coal mining industries.

Approximately 16·4 per cent. of the insured workpeople of 18 years of age and over are unemployed, against 20 per cent. last year.

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

BIRTHS :

	Total.	Males.	Females.
Legitimate	354	189	165
Illegitimate	11	5	6
Total	365	194	171
Birth-rate per 1,000 population	12·9		
Still Births	20	11	9
Rate per 1000 Total Births	...	51	

DEATHS	344	169	175
Crude Death-rate per 1,000 population	12·2		
Adjusted " " " "	13·1		
No. of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth :			
From sepsis	1		
From other causes	nil		

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :

	Total.	Males.	Females.
Legitimate	25	10	15
Illegitimate	nil	nil	nil
Infantile Mortality Rate	68		
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	nil

RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION.

	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Tubercu- losis Death- Rate (Respira- tory)	Infantile M'rtaity Rate
Mean of 5 years :				
1895-1899 ...	32.0	20.4	1.13	242
1900-1904 ...	28.3	18.4	0.99	220
1905-1909 ...	27.0	16.7	1.13	186
1910-1914 ...	23.3	14.1	0.75	160
1915-1919 ...	18.6	16.7	1.16	126
1920-1924 ...	20.4	12.4	0.87	91
1925-1929 ...	15.2	12.2	0.70	85
1930-1934 ...	13.0	12.2	0.51	82
Year :				
1934 ...	13.2	11.5	0.53	72
1935 ...	12.9	12.2	0.24	68
Increase or decrease in 1935 on				
Mean of 5 years, 1930-1934 ...	-0.1	nil	-0.27	-14
Previous year ...	-0.3	+0.7	-0.29	-4

TABLE I.

Showing Birth Rates, Death Rates, and Infantile Mortality Rates for Farnworth since 1912, compared with England and Wales.

	Birth Rates.		Death Rates.		Infantile Mortality Rates.	
Year.	England & Wales	Farnworth	England & Wales	Farnworth	England & Wales	Farnworth
1912	23.9	22.7	13.0	12.5	95	109
1913	24.1	22.4	13.5	15.0	108	215
1914	23.8	23.1	13.7	14.3	105	122
1915	21.9	19.8	14.8	18.3	110	172
1916	20.9	18.5	13.4	15.1	91	104
1917	17.8	18.4	13.5	16.1	96	112
1918	17.7	18.1	17.1	17.1	97	113
1919	18.5	17.0	13.3	16.9	89	127
1920	25.4	24.2	12.1	12.9	80	125
1921	22.4	23.8	11.5	12.5	83	90
1922	20.6	18.6	12.9	13.0	77	68
1923	19.7	17.8	11.6	12.0	69	69
1924	18.8	17.6	12.2	11.7	75	103
1925	18.3	17.2	12.2	12.4	75	80
1926	17.8	15.0	11.6	11.2	70	96
1927	16.7	16.4	12.3	12.5	69	78
1928	16.7	14.3	11.7	11.4	65	75
1929	16.3	13.5	13.4	14.6	74	97
1930	16.3	14.0	11.4	11.4	60	70
1931	15.8	12.3	12.3	12.6	66	84
1932	15.3	14.2	12.0	11.3	65	89
1933	14.4	11.5	12.3	14.2	64	97
1934	14.8	13.2	11.8	11.5	59	72
1935	14.7	12.9	11.7	12.2	57	68

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1935.

Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other tuberculous diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Cerebral hæmorrhage, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Aneurysm	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other Circulatory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Peptic ulcer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cirrhosis of liver	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other diseases of liver	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Acute and chronic nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Senility	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Other deaths from violence	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Other defined diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
TOTAL								344

The diseases which produced the largest number of deaths—60 per cent. of the total—are given in the following table. For purposes of comparison, the corresponding figures for the five previous years are given :—

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TABLE II.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	NUMBER OF DEATHS.					
	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935
Pneumonia	21	22	12	29	15	21
Heart disease	55	72	57	78	60	60
Other circulatory disease	29	24	41	24	24	20
Cancer	50	43	37	53	36	41
Tuberculosis (all forms) ...	24	21	12	16	21	9
Bronchitis	16	23	23	35	9	11
Cerebral hæmorrhage ...	13	19	10	13	18	23
Congenital debility ; premature birth ...	17	24	20	17	19	21

TABLE III.

Showing Infantile Mortality Rates of Towns of over 25,000
population in the administrative County of Lancaster,
for the year 1935.

NAME OF TOWN.	Infantile Mortality Rate.
Accrington	41
Ashton-under-Lyne	66
Chadderton	63
Chorley	99
Darwen	48
Eccles	41
FARNWORTH	68
Heywood	68
Lancaster	57
Leigh	80
Lytham-St. Annes	23
Middleton	35
Nelson	76
Radcliffe	55
Rawtenstall	50
Stretford	60
Swinton and Pendlebury	58
Waterloo-with-Seaforth	61
Widnes	69

Births.

378 live births were registered in Farnworth during the year, these being divided amongst the various Wards as follows :—

N.	S.	N.W.	S.W.	N.E.	S.E.
29	54	100	138	31	26

After adjustment for transferable births, the number to be assigned to Farnworth was 365, giving a birth-rate for the year of 12.9 per 1000 of the population. This was a decrease of 0.3 per 1000 on the previous year, and a decrease of 0.1 per 1000 over the period 1930-1934.

Deaths.

The number of deaths registered in Farnworth during 1935 was 301.

The Ward distribution was as follows :—

N.	S.	N.W.	S.W.	N.E.	S.E.
22	58	70	94	34	23

After allowance for transfers, the nett number of deaths assignable to the district was 344, giving a crude death-rate of 12.2 per 1000 of the population. This is an increase of 0.7 per 1000 on the previous year.

As the age and sex group components vary greatly in different towns, a just comparison cannot be made on "crude" death rates alone. The Registrar General has therefore introduced what he calls a "comparability factor" for each district. That for Farnworth is 1.08. For comparative purposes, therefore, the crude death rate has to be multiplied by 1.08, which gives for Farnworth an "adjusted" death rate of 13.1 per 1,000.

Infant Deaths.

25 deaths of children under 12 months of age were registered, distributed as follows :—

N.	S.	N.W.	S.W.	N.E.	S.E.
—	3	9	10	2	1

The infant mortality rate for the year was 68 per 1000 registered births.

Meteorological Notes for 1935.*

Total sunshine	...	...	...	...	1218.5 hours
Temperature : Highest	...	...	84.2°	June 22nd	
Lowest	...	...	18.6°	Dec. 17th, 23rd	
Mean	...	...	...	...	49.33°
Rainfall :					
Maximum in one day	...	...	...	1.748 ins.	Oct. 9th
Total, 1935	...	...	...	...	48.746 ins.
Average, 1887-1935	...	...	...	...	42.247 ins.

*From information kindly supplied by Mr. E. Hendy, Bolton.

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

(a) MEDICAL :

Medical Officer of Health : ALEXANDER G. GLASS, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.
(Also M.O.H. Kearsley U.D.C.)

Antenatal Clinic : J. W. A. HUNTER, M.B., Ch.B. (one afternoon fortnightly).

Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia : DR. JAMES SCOTT (as required).

Dental Officer to Maternity and Child Welfare Committee : G. C. ROYLEY, L.D.S.

(b) OTHERS :

Veterinary Inspector : JAMES HOLT, M.R.C.V.S. (Quarterly inspection of all cattle in the district).

Sanitary Inspectors : H. T. OGDEN, A.R.S.I. (Chief—also Meat Inspector).
S. SEEL, A.R.S.I. (also Market Superintendent).
D. DAVIES, A.R.S.I. (resigned Nov. 30th).

Health Visitors : Miss A. PENDLEBURY, A.R.S.I.,
Certs. M. & C.W. and C.M.B.
Miss A. B. ECROYD, A.R.S.I.,
Certs. S.N. & H.V. and C.M.B.

Clerk : T. SHAW.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

(a) GENERAL.

This is carried out entirely by the District Nursing Association, which is a voluntary body, depending for its income on free-will contributions. It has no official connection with the Local Authority, but receives from them an annual subscription of twenty guineas. It is affiliated to the County Nursing Association which receives an annual contribution of £3 3s. from the Local Authority.

(b) INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Arrangements have been made with the District Nursing Association for the services of a trained nurse in cases of puerperal pyrexia, puerperal fever and the notifiable cases of pneumonia. The cost to the Council is from 1/- to 1/6 per visit.

For other infectious diseases there is no domiciliary nursing service. The Health Visitors visit cases of measles, whooping cough, etc., and advise parents in regard to management and treatment.

Midwives.

At the end of 1935 there were 5 registered midwives in practice in the Farnworth area. No subsidy is paid by the Local Authority for this service, and the midwives are under the supervision of the County Council.

Laboratory Facilities.

The examination of clinical material (blood, swabs, etc.) is done at the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester. Milk samples are also examined there.

The examination of sputum is carried out by the Lancashire Tuberculosis Committee, free of charge to the Local Authority.

Public Health Legislation in Force in the Area.

	NAME.	Operative from
LOCAL ACTS :	The Farnworth Urban District Council Act	1900
LOCAL ORDER :	Provisional Order for Amending the Farnworth U.D.C. Act of 1900...	—
ADOPTIVE ACTS :	Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890. Parts I. to V. inclusive....	1891
	Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890... ..	1896
	Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907. Parts V., VI., Sections of Parts II., III., IV., VII., VIII. and X.	1909
	Public Health Act, 1925. Parts II., III., IV. and V., except Sec. 20 March, 1926	
LOCAL BYELAWS :	Houses Let in Lodgings	1929
	Common Lodging Houses	1929
	Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	1899
	New Streets and Buildings	1930
	Public Baths	1900
	Cleansing of Footways and Pavements	1900
	Nuisances	1900
	Slaughterhouses	1929
	Tripe Boilers	1900
	Sanitary Conveniences	1900
	Tents, Vans, Sheds	1929

The Acts and Byelaws are all enforced.

Hospitals.

Farnworth is well served in the matter of hospitals.

Townleys Hospital, with over 500 beds, is within the district, and is under the administrative control of the Bolton Corporation. There is a frequent bus service to the hospital.

Bolton Infirmary, with 250 beds, is easily accessible by tram.

There are also large hospitals in the Salford and Manchester area, to which many Farnworth patients go.

All these Institutions have medical and surgical wards, and are equipped with every modern facility for diagnosis and treatment.

In addition to these general hospitals there is the Manchester Children's Hospital at Pendlebury (190 beds), to which many Farnworth children are sent. With the exception of Townleys Hospital all are voluntary Institutions.

Specialised classes of defect are provided for, e.g.,

Tuberculosis—at the various County Hospitals and Institutions.

Venereal disease—at Bolton Infirmary.

Chronic sick—at Townleys Hospital.

Maternity—at Townleys Hospital.

Puerperal fever and pyrexia—at Townleys Hospital.

Ophthalmia neonatorum—at Townleys Hospital.

Ear, Nose and Throat—at Bolton Infirmary.

Orthopaedics—at Biddulph and Windermere (owned by County Council).

Infectious Disease.

The Council has made the following arrangements for the removal of cases suffering from infectious disease :—

(1) SMALLPOX.

Ainsworth Hospital, under the Bury and District Joint Hospital Board. A retaining fee of £110 per annum is paid. If patients are sent, the cost of their maintenance is also borne by the Council, plus proportion of administrative costs. There has been no case of Smallpox in the district since 1930.

(2) OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES :

In 1934 an agreement was made with Salford Corporation for the admission of cases of infectious disease (other than smallpox) to their hospital at Ladywell. The charge to the Council is £3 15s. 0d. per patient per week. The Corporation remove the patients to hospital and disinfect and return the clothing at a charge of 20/- per case. They also return the patients to their homes at a fee of 10/6 per time.

This arrangement has worked well, and no complaints have been received.

Part taken by the Local Authority in regard to hospitals :—**(1) FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS.****(a) Bolton Infirmary.**

Tonsils and adenoids, 25/- per case, plus 7/6 for each night detained in hospital.

(b) Townleys Hospital.

Maternity cases—2½ guineas per week.

Puerperal fever and pyrexia—2½ guineas per week.

(c) Orthopaedic Hospitals.

Farnworth has joined in the County Scheme for treatment up to age of 14.

(2) ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS.

Bolton Infirmary	...	...	...	...	£42	0	0
St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester	...	...	...	...	10	10	0
Manchester Royal Infirmary	...	...	...	...	30	0	0
Salford Royal Hospital	...	...	...	...	21	0	0
Manchester Children's Hospital	...	...	...	...	7	0	0
Manchester Royal Eye Hospital	...	...	...	...	3	3	0
Manchester & Salford Hospital for Skin Diseases	...	...	...	...	5	5	0
Royal Albert Institution for the Feeble-minded, Lancaster.	...	...	...	...	1	1	0

Ambulance Facilities.**(a) For infectious cases—Hospital motor ambulance.****(b) For non-infectious and accident cases—Two motor ambulances kept at the Fire Station.****Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers, Illegitimate Infants and Homeless Children.**

No institution exists in the area for the reception of unmarried mothers and illegitimate infants. If they are destitute they are received into Townleys. With regard to homeless children, these are provided for by the Public Assistance Committee, who own 13 Cottage Homes, with certified accommodation for 208 children. Each home is under the charge of a foster-mother, who is responsible for its good conduct. The children are kept till they are 18 if they have no parents, or if they are deserted. Some of them are boarded out, and some become adopted, but in either case they remain under the supervision of the Committee up to the age of 18. Between 18 and 21 their interests are still safeguarded by an After-care Committee.

The children are frequently examined at the school medical inspections, and the School Medical Officer's reports on their nutrition and general cleanliness have been uniformly satisfactory. Any medical defects found receive prompt attention.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

Name of Clinic.	Situation.	Nature of Accommodation	Provided by.
M.&C. W. Clinic School Clinic. (Combined)	Wesley School, Market Street, Farnworth	Waiting room, demonstration room, Medical Officer's consult- ing room, sur- gery, bath room with slipper and spray baths, lavatory accom- modation and pram shelter.	Farnworth Urban District Council.
Venereal Diseases.	Offices of Public Health Dept., Howell Croft N. Bolton.	Waiting and ante-rooms. Consulting, treatment, and irrigation rooms Lavatory and W.C. accom- modation.	Bolton Corporation.
Tuberculosis	19-23 Darley Street, Farnworth.	2 waiting rooms, 2 dressing rooms (male & female).	Lancashire County Council.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water Supply.

The town is supplied with water by Bolton Corporation. The water is derived from upland gathering grounds, is soft in nature, and is of pure quality.

All the houses in the district are supplied with water.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Drainage is almost entirely on the combined system. The main sewage disposal plant is situated at the bottom of Hall Lane, just outside the Farnworth district. The sewage, after being screened, is precipitated with lime, afterwards passing through settling beds, from which it is conveyed by mechanical circular sprinklers on to the bacteriological purification beds. The effluent, after parting with its "humus" in specially constructed tanks, finally discharges into the River Croal.

Closet Accommodation.

ACCOMMODATION AT THE END OF 1935 :—

Number of	privy middens	...	...	...	...	18
"	closets attached to these middens	...	...	...	...	25
"	pail closets	...	...	...	...	12
"	fresh water closets	...	...	...	...	8409
"	waste water closets	...	...	...	...	509
"	dry ashpits (excluding middens)	...	...	...	...	1
"	movable ashbins for refuse	...	...	...	...	8003

Conversions.

		During 1935	During 5 years 1930-1934.
Number of privy closets	To fresh water closets	nil	32
	To waste water closets	nil	nil
	To pails, etc. ...	nil	nil
Number of pail closets	To fresh water closets	nil	nil
	To waste water closets	nil	nil
No of waste water closets to fresh water closets ...		10	41
Number of houses at which movable ashbins have been substituted for fixed receptacles ...		nil	3

Scavenging.

The following is the Report of the Cleansing Superintendent :

"There are 8,003 bin receptacles from dwelling-houses and shops dealt with weekly in addition to the refuse from Institutions, Slaughterhouses, the Market, and all places of Worship. Refuse from several trade shops and from places of amusement (by arrangement) is also removed by our department, the one exception being fish offal. A private firm makes a daily collection of this offal and pays for it. All accounts are sent out and collected by the Finance Department. One 30 cwt. motor and four carts are hired from our Transport Section, and, in addition to the motorist and carters, seven fillers work under the instruction of a foreman. Fully loaded vehicles then proceed to tipping sites, being covered in transit. Two workmen and one watchman keep the sites in good condition and where practicable the combustible matter is burned on a clay bed. Every effort is made to avoid complaints. The residue is then removed and buried. Slaughterhouse refuse is not considered suitable for tipping, and the Council pay for its destruction after the department has conveyed it to Bolton.

**Tabular Summary of the Work of the Sanitary
Department during the Year.**

	WARDS.		
	South	North	South-East
Notices :			
Preliminary notices served	94	70	72
Statutory notices served	226	3	69
Visits :			
Work in progress for abatement of nuisances	763	419	534
Housing inspections and re-visits ...	872	483	593
Infectious diseases	21	19	14
Cowsheds, Dairies or Milkshops	42	68	24
Ice Cream premises	4	3	2
Factories, Workshops and Workplaces ...	16	11	3
Slaughterhouses	28	489	111
Food preparing premises	84	21	16
Butchers' shops and stalls	18	46	11
Meat vehicles... ..	6	8	2
Bake-houses	36	40	27
Offensive trades	4	—	—
Complaints re rats	23	42	39
Houses Let in Lodgings	—	—	—
Houses :			
Walls repointed or rebuilt	96	50	42
Windows repaired or renewed	115	27	36
Fixed windows made to open	10	1	1
Bedroom floors repaired or renewed ...	26	10	11
Ground floors relaid... ..	118	20	22
Staircases repaired or hand-rails provided	96	6	10
Roofs repaired or reslated	72	16	18
Chimney stacks rebuilt or repaired ...	24	8	11
Doors repaired or renewed	64	17	18
Fire ranges or ovens repaired or renewed	18	8	6
Walls and ceilings replastered or repaired	—	78	—
Ovens repaired or renewed	11	8	5
Walls provided with a damp-proof course	186	50	92
Walls and ceilings decorated	156	69	96
New Sinks provided	44	6	6
Eaves gutters repaired or renewed... ..	42	33	18
Rainwater down-pipes renewed	16	4	10
„ „ unstopped	4	—	3
„ „ disconnected from drains	16	6	5
„ „ discharged into cross-gutters	16	3	2
Wash-boilers. New provided	3	2	2
„ Brickwork or firegrates repaired	16	1	8
Bins renewed... ..	64	9	18
W.W.C.'s converted to F.W.C.'s	—	6	—
W.C. cisterns repaired or renewed ...	16	10	13
W.C. water service pipes repaired ...	14	1	3
W.C. seats renewed	4	8	—
W.C. roofs repaired	—	8	—
Drains unstopped	—	10	—
„ repaired or relaid	—	10	—
Yards paved	—	20	—
Offensive accumulations removed ...	—	3	—

**Tabular Summary of the Work of the Sanitary
Department during the Year.**

	WARDS.		
	North- East	North- West	South- West
Notices :			
Preliminary notices served	175	112	63
Statutory notices served	131	123	37
Visits :			
Work in progress for abatement of nuisances	842	685	372
Housing inspections and re-visits	1019	685	476
Infectious diseases	15	66	72
Cowsheds, Dairies or Milkshops	25	63	126
Ice Cream premises	4	2	11
Factories, Workshops and Workplaces	4	14	9
Slaughterhouses	—	—	163
Food preparing premises	20	43	76
Butchers' Shops and Stalls	18	14	28
Meat Vehicles	4	5	11
Bake-houses	16	35	42
Offensive trades	—	—	6
Complaints, <i>re</i> rats	35	38	40
Houses Let in Lodgings	6	—	—
Houses :			
Walls repointed or rebuilt	57	67	32
Windows repaired or renewed	101	25	28
Fixed windows made to open	5	3	7
Bedroom floors repaired or renewed	29	5	13
Ground floors relaid	111	51	26
Staircases repaired or handrails provided	85	56	22
Roofs repaired or reslated	61	26	24
Chimney stacks rebuilt or repaired	4	1	5
Doors repaired or renewed... ..	62	22	16
Fire ranges or ovens repaired or renewed...	28	6	4
Walls and ceilings replastered or repaired	269	51	—
Ovens repaired or renewed	28	36	10
Walls provided with a damp-proof course	157	38	28
Walls and ceilings decorated	234	57	46
New sinks provided	41	35	8
Eaves gutters repaired or renewed... ..	70	27	10
Rainwater downpipes renewed	17	9	—
„ „ unstopped	—	—	6
„ „ disconnected from drains	4	14	8
„ „ discharged into cross- gutters	3	9	8
Wash-boilers. New provided	4	2	3
„ Brickwork or firegrates repaired	15	3	5
Bins renewed	19	20	16
W.W.C.'s converted to F.W.C.'s	—	—	4
W.C. cisterns repaired or renewed	5	1	11
W.C. water service pipes repaired	1	—	6
W.C. seats renewed	18	5	—
W.C. roofs repaired	1	3	—
Drains unstopped	3	6	—
„ repaired or relaid	7	—	—
Yards paved	21	25	—
Offensive accumulations removed	11	—	—

Smoke Abatement.**SMOKE OBSERVATIONS.**

	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935
Number of observations	63	70	70	68	56	67	86	86	89
Legal proceedings ...	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0

The time concession for the emission of black smoke in Farnworth is 2 minutes in the half-hour.

Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by Byelaws or Regulations.**(1) HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS :**

There is one in the district which is up to Byelaw requirements and is under constant supervision.

(2) COMMON LODGING HOUSES :

There are none in the district.

(3) OFFENSIVE TRADES :

There are only three in the area—one tripe-boiler, one soap boiler, and one bone store. These premises are frequently inspected and no complaints have been received regarding them.

(4) UNDERGROUND SLEEPING ROOMS :

There are none in the district.

Schools.

The sanitary condition of the public elementary schools, and the measures taken for safeguarding the health of the scholars are fully described in the Annual Reports of the School Medical Officer.

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

241 visits were paid during 1935. 43 defects were found, 40 of which had been remedied by the end of the year.

HOUSING.**Housing Statistics for the year 1935.**

Number of new houses erected during the year :

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)...	281
(i) By the Local Authority	102
(ii) By other Local Authorities	nil
(iii) By other bodies and persons	179
(b) With state assistance under the Housing Acts :—	
(i) By the Local Authority	102
(ii) By other bodies or persons	nil

I. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES :

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1155
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	5265

(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	183
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	274
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be unfit for human habitation	nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found to be in any respect unfit for human habitation	631

II. Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices :

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	584
--	-----

III. Action under Statutory Powers :

A. Proceedings under Sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs... ..	175
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	179
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	nil

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	197
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	188
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	nil

C. Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	4
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	1

D.—Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	nil

Housing Conditions.

(1) GENERAL OBSERVATIONS AS TO HOUSING CONDITIONS.

Excluding those built by the Council, 85 per cent. of the houses in Farnworth are of the four-roomed type, with separate yards and fresh-water closets. They do not possess larders nor baths, although these can no longer be considered luxuries but necessities, if a decent standard of hygiene is to be maintained.

In the matter of age, 65 per cent. will be in the neighbourhood of 50 years, 10 per cent. are older, the remainder being of more recent erection.

Approximately 98 per cent. of the houses are of fair standard, that is to say, they conform more or less to the Building Byelaws, although many have fallen into a state of disrepair. A common defect in these houses is dampness, due principally to two causes: (1) the practice of building solid instead of cavity walls, and (2) the absence or ineffectiveness of the damp course.

(2) SUFFICIENCY OF SUPPLY OF HOUSES.

There is now no serious shortage unless the survey under the 1935 Housing Act reveals some.

(3) OVERCROWDING.

Information in regard to overcrowding is obtained from various sources: (1) from people who, on account of overcrowding, apply for a house; (2) from visits to houses by sanitary inspectors, health visitors and school nurses; (3) from information received from medical practitioners and others.

From whatever source information reaches us, the case is investigated; and, if found to be genuine, particulars are forwarded to the Housing Committee.

The causes of overcrowding are, in order of frequency: (1) large families in houses which have grown too small for their needs; (2) children marrying and remaining with their parents; (3) keeping of lodgers.

(4) FITNESS OF HOUSES.

With the exception of a few houses which are scheduled to be dealt with under schemes of demolition or reconstruction, the defects in the others are being systematically dealt with under the various Public Health or Housing Acts.

No great difficulty has been experienced in enforcing our powers.

All the houses in the district have a pure water supply, and all have fresh water closets, except in a few cases where no sewer is available.

(5) CLEARANCE AREAS.

No Representations had to be made to the Council during the year in connection with unhealthy areas, and no Public Inquiries were held.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(a) **Milk Supply.**

There are 12 dairy farms in the district with approximately 245 cows. The farms are inspected at frequent intervals for sanitary defects, and in addition, the cows are inspected four times a year by a qualified veterinary inspector. His reports during the year have been favourable.

The farms are now provided with dairies which in all cases have no communication with other buildings.

The provisions of the Milk and Dairies Order requiring cattle to be kept clean, and requiring the washing of udders and flanks previous to each milking, were complied with, except in one or two instances where, after a warning letter, the provisions of the Order were carried out.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF SAMPLES TAKEN DURING THE YEAR.

Kind of Milk.	Bacterial count per c.c.	Bacillus coli present (3 tubes—O.lc.c.)	Tubercle bacilli.	Per 100,000 parts	
				Cells and cellular products.	Extraneous materials.
Mixed	26,500	Absent in 1.Oc.c.	negative	19	trace
Mixed	4,700	O.lc.c. in 2 tubes O.Olc.c. in none	negative	18	trace
Mixed	145,000	O.lc.c. in 3 tubes O.Olc.c. in 1 tube	negative	25	2
Mixed	102,000	O.lc.c. in 3 tubes O.Olc.c. in 3 tubes	negative	17	2
Mixed	4,050	Absent in 1.Oc.c.	negative	6	2
Mixed	605,000	O.lc.c. in 2 tubes O.Olc.c. in none	negative	23	trace
Mixed	272,000	O.lc.c. in 3 tubes O.Olc.c. in 2 tubes	negative	15	trace
Mixed	31,500	O.lc.c. in 3 tubes O.Olc.c. in none	negative	12	trace
Mixed	11,600,000	O.lc.c. in 3 tubes O.Olc.c. in 3 tubes	negative	—	—
Pasteurised	2,407	Absent in 1.Oc.c.	negative	8	trace
Pasteurised	2,600	Absent in 1.Oc.c.	negative	5	trace
Pasteurised	51,000	O.lc.c. in 2 tubes O.Olc.c. in none	negative	4	trace
Pasteurised ...	15,067	Absent in 1.Oc.c.	negative	6	trace
Pasteurised ...	1,383	Absent in 1.Oc.c.	negative	trace	none
Grade A. ...	760	O.lc.c. in none O.Olc.c. in none	negative	7	trace

In addition, two samples were taken from cows suspected of being tuberculous. One was positive, and the affected cow was destroyed.

(b) **Meat.**

The following is the report of the Meat Inspector :—

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There are eight slaughterhouses in the district, which are licensed annually. The structures are in fair condition, but most of the slaughterhouses are in close proximity to dwellings, and nuisances—which in the main are unavoidable during the process of slaughter of animals—are caused to occupants of dwelling houses in close proximity to the slaughterhouses.

The Byelaws relating to the humane slaughter of animals, which require every animal to be effectually stunned with a mechanically operated instrument, has now been in force for over six years. The type of apparatus used is the capture bolt pistol, and no cases of cruelty to animals during the process of slaughter of animals have been observed.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924.

The above Regulations have now been in force ten years. In a few instances it has been found necessary to warn persons handling meat of the provisions of the above Regulations, which require the wearing of a clean and washable overall and cap by persons during the unloading and carrying of meat and bacon, and that such articles of food, when conveyed through the streets, must be adequately protected with a clean cloth or other suitable covering, so as to prevent contamination by mud, dust, filth, etc. It is pleasing to note that there is a general desire amongst “the trade” to comply with the Regulations.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

A systematic inspection of animals slaughtered for human consumption has been made during the year, all butchers having to notify their intention of slaughtering animals in accordance with the provisions of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.

The carcasses, organs and offal are inspected at the time of slaughter in accordance with the Ministry of Health’s circular letter to Local Authorities and their Officers (Memo. 62 Foods).

The following is a tabulated statement of the visits made to slaughterhouses, and the carcasses examined each month :—

Months.	Visits.	Beasts.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
January	70	71	321	—	163
February	61	88	325	1	61
March	73	101	298	7	60
April	70	90	294	2	54
May	65	89	357	—	70
June	58	86	350	—	30
July	50	68	373	—	22
August	67	75	342	2	28
September	71	81	364	—	81
October	78	115	392	1	121
November	70	82	300	1	107
December... ..	58	72	240	—	199
	<hr/> 791	<hr/> 1018	<hr/> 3956	<hr/> 14	<hr/> 996

CONDEMNED MEAT.

The following is a list of diseased, unsound, unwholesome or unfit meat and food, which was condemned, as being unfit for human consumption :—

Meat Condemned.	Reason for Condemnation.
5 beasts with all organs and offal	Tuberculosis
1 side of beef	do.
1 buttock of beef (Imported)	Bone taint
Portion of buttock of beef (imported)	do.
7 forequarters of beef	Tuberculosis
1 forequarter and loin of beef	Traumatic pyaemia
49 pairs beasts' lungs	Tuberculosis
4 pairs beasts' lungs	Echinococci
21 beasts' heads	Tuberculosis
3 beasts' livers	Distomatosis
3 beasts' livers	Tuberculosis
3 beasts' livers	Abscesses
2 beasts' mesentery and intestines	Tuberculosis
4 pigs with all organs and offal	do.
51 pigs' heads	do.
30 pigs' plucks (lungs, liver and heart)	do.
2 pigs' livers	do.
3 pigs' mesentery and intestines	do.

Meat Condemned.	Reason for Condemnation.
1 sheep with all organs and offal	Decomposition
10 sheeps' livers	Distomatosis
1 calf with all organs and offal	Immature
2 oxtails	Decomposition

Total weight 9,685 lbs.

Tubercular meat 9,161 lbs.

Diseased, unsound, unwholesome (other than above) 524 lbs.

Also condemned—

2 gallons of Ice Cream.	1 tin of corned beef
3 (1-lb.) tins of milk.	4 tins of Boiled Ham
1 (6-lb.) tin of apples.	19 (2-lb.) tins of sliced peaches.

H. T. OGDEN.

(c) Adulteration of Food.

The County Council are the Authority under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, and samples are taken by the police. Supt. Turner has kindly supplied me with the following figures which relate to Farnworth for the year 1935 :—

	No. of samples taken.
Milk	6
Butter	1
Coffee	1
White pepper	1
Lard	1
Tea	1
Lancashire Cheese	1

All the samples were genuine.

Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious Diseases.

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious disease notified during the last five years, and the number of deaths :

TABLE V.

	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	No. of Deaths.
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	10	5	19	36	28	8
Erysipelas	26	26	29	45	31	—
Scarlet Fever ...	19	44	148	14	132	1
Enteric Fever ...	1	—	—	—	1	1
Puerperal fever ...	6	3	3	3	6	5
Puerperal pyrexia	41	35	45	78	2	—
Ophthalmia						
Neonatorum ...	8	12	13	8	—	—
Pneumonia—Acute						
Lobar & Influenzal	98	70	189	107	122	99*
Tuberculosis :						
Pulmonary ...	24	19	10	20	19	60
Other forms ...	15	11	1	7	5	19
Encephalitis						
Lethargica ...	—	—	—	—	—	5
Cerebro-spinal fever	9	—	—	—	2	5
Acute poliomyelitis	—	1	—	6	—	—

* This figure includes deaths from all forms of pneumonia, notifiable and non-notifiable.

Diphtheria.

28 cases of diphtheria were notified during the year, against an average of 20 for the previous 5 years. There were 2 deaths. This disease continues to maintain its virulent character. Owing to the prompt use of antitoxin, however, the case mortality has been greatly reduced in recent years.

Diphtheria Antitoxin.

Antitoxin is provided by the Council free of charge for patients residing within the district. A supply is always available for medical practitioners, and is supplied in phials of 8,000 units and of 1000 units, the former for curative and the latter for prophylactic purposes.

During 1935 antitoxin to the amount of 463,000 units was issued to medical men.

Active Immunisation against Diphtheria.

Towards the end of the year the Council decided to provide facilities for the active immunisation of all children whose parents desired it.

A circular was drawn up, which is reproduced here, in the hope that it may influence some parents to have their children protected against this deadly disease.

"Diphtheria, a very dangerous infectious disease, can now be prevented from occurring by means of a protective inoculation. All parents are advised to allow their children to be protected in this way.

"It is unnecessary to inoculate babies under twelve months old, but, after that age, the younger the child the better, because (a) very young children do not feel any discomfort from inoculation, and (b) it is important to protect children when very young because diphtheria is a disease more fatal in young children than it is in older children.

"The usual course of inoculation against diphtheria consists of two injections into the arm at an interval of three weeks. This inoculation does not make the arm sore, very rarely makes children ill and seldom makes them cry.

"The protection against diphtheria reaches its height about three months after the last inoculation, and, for all practical purposes, it lasts for life.

"Take your children for inoculation to your own doctor or to the clinic. The Health Visitors or School Nurses will arrange a suitable date for carrying out the inoculation. There is no charge for inoculation at the clinic."

Scarlet Fever.

During the year 132 cases were notified, against an average of 119 per year for the previous five years. This disease has become of so mild a character in recent years that many cases go quite unrecognised. There were no deaths.

Pneumonia.

The various forms of pneumonia continue to take a heavy toll of life. Of the notifiable varieties 122 cases were reported, while the average number during the past five years has been 117 per year. Of the 122 cases only 35 belonged to the district.

The remainder belonged to outside districts, principally Bolton, and were notified from Townleys Hospital. Eight of the cases were of the influenza type. There were 21 deaths.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

Only two cases were notified during the year, one of which belonged to Farnworth.

Puerperal Fever.

Of the six cases notified in 1935, none belonged to Farnworth.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

No notifications were received during the year.

SPECIMENS EXAMINED DURING 1935.

NATURE OF SPECIMEN.	NUMBER.
Blood (for typhoid)...	nil
Sputum (for tuberculosis) ...	nil
Throat swabs (for diphtheria) ...	50 (14 positive)

Milk Samples, see page 23.

Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases.

Information regarding cases reaches us chiefly from two sources (1) The Health Visitors who discover them on their rounds, and (2) The Education Department, to whom they are notified by teachers, and the School Attendance Officer. All such cases are visited by the Health Visitors, and instructions given to parents regarding treatment, isolation, etc.

Disinfection.

Disinfection of premises is carried out by the Sanitary Dept., infected articles being conveyed to the old Isolation Hospital and disinfected by steam.

TABLE VI.—Giving particulars regarding the Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1935.

DISEASE.	Total cases at all Ages.	CASES NOTIFIED.											Cases admitted to Hospital from the district	
		Under 1 yr.	YEARS.							65 and over				
			1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65		
Scarlet Fever	132 (1)	3	6	3	8	13	52	24	9	11	2	1	—	50
Diphtheria	28	—	—	2	1	2	11	7	—	3	—	2	—	21
Pneumonia—acute primary	114 (2)	14	8	5	4	4	19	6	4	18	10	15	7	9
—influenzal	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	2	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	2 (3)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
Puerperal Fever	6 (4)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	2	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal fever	2 (5)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Enteric fever	1 (6)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	31 (7)	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	5	3	10	11	2

(1) Only 127 of these belonged to the district.

(5) None of these belonged to the district.

(6) Not belonging to the district.

(7) Only 18 of these belonged to the district.

(2) " " "

(3) " " "

(4) None of " " "

TABLE VII.
TUBERCULOSIS.
New Cases and Mortality during 1935.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10... ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
10—15... ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
15—20... ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
20—25... ..	—	1	1	—	2	—	—	—
25—35... ..	5	3	1	—	2	—	1	—
35—45... ..	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55... ..	3	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
55—65... ..	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	12	7	2	3	7	—	1	3

STATEMENT SHOWING TREATMENT RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR
BY PATIENTS SUFFERING FROM TUBERCULOSIS,
- WHO RESIDE IN THE AREA.

Number of cases :	Adults.	Children	Total
Admitted to Sanatoria	2	—	2
Admitted to Pulmonary Hospitals ...	21	—	21
Admitted to General or Special Hospitals	3	1	4
Granted "light" treatment	4	1	5
Granted X-ray examination	97	6	103
Granted Dispensary supervision or Dis- pensary treatment, with provision of special nourishment	20	1	21
Granted Dispensary supervision or treatment	92	8	100
Under Supervision on 31st Dec., 1935...	98	9	107

The 107 cases under supervision at the end of the year have been classified as follows :—

Pulmonary	68	1	69
Non-pulmonary	23	8	36
Combined	2	—	2
Cases taken off the Register as "cured"	13	3	16

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

These Regulations empower the Local Authority to prevent any one who is suffering from respiratory tuberculosis from taking part in the milking of cows, the treatment of milk, or the handling of vessels used for containing milk.

No action under these Regulations was necessary during the year.

Public Health Act 1925. Section 62.

This section empowers a Local Authority to remove compulsorily to hospital infectious persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis whose lodging or accommodation is such that proper precautions to prevent the spread of infection cannot be taken, or that such precautions are not being taken.

No action was necessary.

National Rat Week.

This was held from November 4th to 9th. By means of advertisements in the local press, and numerous posters, the attention of the public was drawn to the damage and disease caused by rats, and advice given as to their destruction.

Maternity and Child Welfare Department.

1. Health Visiting.

The Council employs 2 fully-trained Health Visitors who devote the whole of their time to the Maternity & Child Welfare Service. One of their principal duties is to visit newly-born children for the purpose of advising mothers in regard to the feeding and care of their infants. Home visitation is of vital importance, since only a small proportion of mothers bring their children to the clinic. Scientific knowledge must therefore be carried to the homes. Mothers are urged to acquire the "clinic habit" so that babies may be regularly weighed and kept under observation, for it is chiefly in this way that early defects are discovered. In spite of every encouragement, however, there are large numbers of mothers who, from one cause or another, will not come to the centre; and hence the importance of systematic visits to the homes. Repeated visits are paid during the first year of the baby's life, and thereafter as often as may be deemed necessary until the child arrives at school age. Reference to page 39 will show the number and nature of the visits paid during 1935.

2. The Welfare Clinic.

The clinic is open on three afternoons each week, when both Health Visitors are in attendance. The Medical Officer attends on one of the afternoons for consultation.

A feature of the work at the clinic is the regular weighing of the babies. It cannot be too strongly emphasised that loss of weight is often the first, and, indeed, is frequently the only indication that a child is not making progress. Lectures and talks on health topics are given and in this and other ways it is sought to inculcate the principles of a healthy way of life.

The various brands of dried milk, virol, etc., are sold to mothers at cost price; and under the Council's scheme milk—liquid and dried—is supplied free of cost to expectant and nursing mothers and to infants under 12 months where the family income is not sufficient to provide for it.

The social side of the work is also encouraged. Mothers are supplied with tea and cakes at a small cost, and they have the opportunity of friendly intercourse with one another.

Our best thanks are again due to the voluntary helpers who have devoted so much of their time and energy to welfare work.

3. Ante-natal Clinic.

Excellent accommodation exists for this work at Greenbank Nursery School, consisting of Medical Officer's room, Nurse's room, waiting room, and lavatory accommodation, with a separate entrance to the clinic.

During the year 24 sessions were held, Dr. J. W. A. Hunter, the Gynecologist being in attendance.

121 expectant mothers came for consultation and examination, and they made 373 attendances. Of the 121 cases, 29 attended on one occasion only, 22 came twice, 20 three times, 23 four times, 18 five times, 6 six times, 2 seven times, and 1 eight times. 46 were expectant for the first time (primiparae). The ages of the primiparae are shown in the following table:—

Under 20	20-25	25-30	30-35	35-40	Over 40
2	14	14	11	4	1

The most serious of the morbid conditions found on examination are given below.

	Primiparae.	Multiparae.
	No. of cases	No. of cases
Dental disease	13	31
Contracted pelvis	2	2
Anaemia	1	—
Prolapse of uterus	1	2
Albuminuria	3	4
High Blood Pressure	3	1
Haemorrhage	1	2
Varicose Veins	1	4
Cardiac Disease	3	1
Leucorrhoea	4	12
Hydatid Mole	1	—
Cystic Ovary	1	—
Breech presentation	3	2
Pulmonary catarrh	—	2
Hydramnios	—	2
Rectocele and Cystocele	—	1
Fibroids	—	1

Appropriate treatment was arranged for in all cases.

CONFINEMENT HISTORY OF PATIENTS.

By the end of the year 89 of the patients had been confined. The following table gives particulars regarding the confinements :—

	Primiparae.	Multiparae.
No. confined	33	56
Confinement at home	17	34
Confinement at Nursing Home ...	—	3
Confinement at Townleys Hospital	15	18
Confinement at St. Mary's Hospital	1	1
Vertex presentation	30	52
Breech presentation	2	1
Induced labour	1	1
Labour normal	25	43
Labour normal but prolonged ...	7	7
Caesarian Section	—	1
Forceps delivery	6	1
Ruptured perineum	2	—
Condition of mother satisfactory ...	33	56
Condition of child :		
Alive and well	40	25
Died within 8 days	3	2

4. Convalescent Homes.

(a) FOR MOTHERS AFTER CONFINEMENT.

Arrangements have been made for the admission of suitable cases to the Lear Home of Recovery, West Kirby.

Unfortunately there are no homes within reasonable reach which take in mother and child. The importance of breast feeding renders it essential that a mother should not be separated from her child. In the circumstances, patients are restricted to those cases where the baby has died, or where, for some valid reason, breast feeding has been discontinued. Five cases were sent during the year.

(b) FOR PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Committee have reserved a cot at the North of England Children's Sanatorium, Southport, at an annual cost of £39. During the year only one child was sent.

5. Home Helps.

The Council undertakes to provide Home Helps for mothers at the time of their confinement. A register of women who are suitable and available for such services is kept at the office. The Help takes over the ordinary household duties, and in this way relieves the mother of responsibility during her period of disablement. A definite scale of charges has been drawn up, but in necessitous cases the services are given free of charge. Four Home Helps were supplied during the year, and all agreed to pay according to scale.

6. Maternity Cases.

Arrangements exist with Townleys Hospital, whereby any woman can be admitted for her confinement. Payment is made according to her means. 26 cases were referred to Townleys during the year.

7. Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia.

The following arrangements, which were approved by the Ministry of Health, have been made by the Farnworth Council :—

- (1) second opinion—Dr. Scott, of Bolton, has been appointed at a fee of £2 2s. per consultation.
- (b) bacteriological examinations can be carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester.
- (c) hospital treatment—cases are admitted to Townleys Hospital, provided there is accommodation available, at the rate of 2½ guineas per week per patient.
- (d) skilled nursing—this is carried out by the District Nursing Association at a cost to the Council of 1/6 per visit.

8. Maternal Mortality.

Only one maternal death occurred during the year. The patient received every medical care.

The risks attending pregnancy are considerable, and I would strongly urge medical men and midwives to insist on all their pregnant patients having at least one expert examination during the expectant period.

9. Infant Life Protection.

Under the Local Government Act of 1929, the duties in connection with infant life protection, which were formerly discharged by the Guardians, have been transferred to those local authorities who are responsible for maternity and child welfare. The "Children and Young Persons Act," 1933, has introduced a few more administrative changes. Briefly, the local authority is now responsible for the supervision up to the age of nine years of all children who are maintained "for reward."

At the end of the year there was only one child on the Register.

10. Dental Treatment.

(a) For expectant and nursing mothers.

During 1935, 30 expectant or nursing mothers attended for dental treatment for the first time, of whom 23 required dentures in addition to extractions and fillings. The cost of this service was £130 11s. 8d., of which the patients agreed to pay £40 16s. 0d.

(b) For pre-school children.

12 cases attended during the year, all for extractions.

The following is the Report of the Dental Surgeon :—

To the Members of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on dental treatment carried out during the year, January to December, 1935.

May I mention that some of the mothers who had extractions in 1935 have only received their dentures in 1936, and that these dentures will be shown in the Report for 1936.

This year I have noticed with pleasure that many mothers have attended more willingly than in previous years, and to me it would appear that the prejudice against ante-natal dental treatment is gradually disappearing. Formerly I have had much difficulty in persuading them to undergo dental treatment, but this year less persuasion has been necessary, the mothers having attended and received treatment quite normally.

There is no doubt that in the majority of cases the treatment is greatly appreciated; the mothers say they are able to eat better, consequently they feel better, and from the aesthetic point of view, look better.

One point I should like to refer to is that after the insertion of dentures the patient rarely returns for denture inspection, consequently I do not know whether the dentures remain satisfactory, and as a result I am very often obliged to visit their homes to find out.

In conclusion I should like to thank the nurses for their assistance in many ways.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

G. C. ROYLEY.

SUMMARY OF DENTAL TREATMENT FROM JANUARY TO DECEMBER, 1935.

No. of Mothers treated	Extractions	Fillings	Dentures	Gas	Scaling	Repairs	Remakes
39	285	28	30	3	6	1	—

With the exception of the three gas cases all the extractions were completed under local anaesthesia.

11. Tonsils and Adenoids.

Only one pre-school child was referred for operative treatment.

12. Minor Ailments.

35 children attended the school clinic during the year, making in all 281 attendances.

13. Orthopaedics.

11 pre-school children attended the Orthopaedic Clinic during the year, and made 51 attendances. None of the children had to be sent to Biddulph Hospital. Two were supplied with apparatus.

14. Defective Vision.

7 pre-school children were examined by the School Oculist. In 4 cases suitable glasses were prescribed, whilst in 3 cases other treatment was advised.

15. Medical Officer's Consultations at the Clinic.

The following is a summary of the defects for which the Medical Officer was consulted during 1935 :—

Number of consultations	...	...	...	370
Malnutrition and general debility, including defects of digestive system...	...	...	...	59
Eye (including Squint)...	...	...	...	11
Skin	...	...	...	20
Reproductive Organs	...	...	...	15
Rupture	...	...	...	4
Tonsils and Adenoids	...	...	...	5
Rickets	...	...	...	8
Dental	...	...	...	12
Deformities	...	...	...	5
Ear	...	...	...	13
Pulmonary	...	...	...	20
Mental	...	...	...	2
Adenitis	...	...	...	6
Other	...	...	...	25

75 expectant mothers also attended and made 111 attendances.

Summary of work done by Maternity and Child Welfare Department in 1935 :—

Visits :—

First Visits	....	....	....	....	....	....	407
Re-visits—under 1 year	....	....	....	....	....	....	2126
1—5 years	....	....	....	....	....	....	2904
Expectant Mothers :—							
First Visits	....	....	....	....	....	....	146
Re-visits	....	....	....	....	....	....	250
Infectious Diseases	....	....	....	....	....	....	81
Infant Life Protection	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Special Visits	....	....	....	....	....	....	201
							<hr/>
Total	....	....	....	....	....	....	6117
							<hr/>
Homes—Number Visited	....	....	....	....	....	....	938

Clinic :—

No. of Infants under 12 months	....	....	....	....	....	....	441
Children between 1 and 5 years	....	....	....	....	....	....	465
Total attendances of above two groups	....	....	....	....	....	....	7277
Average attendance per session	....	....	....	....	....	....	49
Expectant Mothers—Number	....	....	....	....	....	....	163
,, ,, Attendances	....	....	....	....	....	....	634

Free Supply of Milk, etc. :—

Dried Milk	....	....	....	....	....	....	6656-lbs.
Cows' Milk	....	....	....	....	....	....	327 gallons
Cod Liver Oil	....	....	....	....	....	....	137-lbs.

A. G. GLASS





